

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 104165 TOSEC 110412

45

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: AWOTTO:WLT

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P 301155Z APR 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104165 TOSEC 110412

C O R R E C T E D COPY MRN SHOULD READ 104165 VICE 014165

FOL REPEAT OF PEKING 780 TO SECSTATE INFO HONG KONG TOKYO
TAIPEI MOSCOW CINCPAC FOR POLAD APR 30

QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 780

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, CH

SUBJECT: EXPLOSION AT SOVIET EMBASSY PEKING

REF: PEKING 776

1. SECOND-HAND STORIES CIRCULATING IN PEKING SOURCED TO MEMBERS
OF THE SOVIET MISSION SUGGEST THEY BELIEVE CAUSE OF APRIL 29
EXPLOSION AT SOVIET EMBASSY MAY HAVE BEEN BOMB CARRIED
BY ONE OR MORE CHINESE. AN INDIAN DIPLOMAT SAID SOVIET
OFFICIAL TOLD HIM THIS MORNING THAT THE SOVIETS DID NOT ACTUALLY
SEE THE EXPLOSION, BUT THAT AFTER THE SMOKE HAD CLEARED THEY
SAW THE TWO DEAD PLA SOLDIERS AND AN INJURED THIRD CHINESE.
PIECES OF DEBRIS FROM THE EXPLOSION WERE SAID TO BE FOUND AS
FAR AS 150 YARDS AWAY. OTHER UNCONFIRMED RUMORS HAVE SEVERAL
CHINESE CIVILIANS INVOLVED IN THE INCIDENT. IMPACT OF EXPLOSION
WAS CONFIRMED BY REUTERS CORRESPONDENT WHO REVISED UPWARD
HIS ESTIMATE OF SIZE OF EXPLOSION AFTER REVISTING SOVIET
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COMPOUND AROUND NOON.

2. SOVIETS HAVE AVOIDED TALKING WITH US OR OTHER WESTERN
DIPLOMATS ON INCIDENT AND CHINESE CONTINUE TO REFRAIN FROM
COMMENTING. THAYER UNQTE SISCO

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NNN

Message Attributes

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